

Deep Spring Center

Board of Directors Meeting

26 APRIL 2020 / 8:00 PM EST / ZOOM

Attendees

Isabelle Mook-Jodouin, Tana Dean, Robert Lee, Roann Altman, Tavis Taylor, Barbara Brodsky, Mary Bruey, Patricia Polanski

Guest: Colette Simone

Aaron's Guidance

My blessings and love to you all. I am Aaron.

Imagine if you had gone on a hike with me, up a large mountain. We climbed and climbed, and you thought, 'Ah I can see the summit'. And as we climbed that rocky dome, you realized that the land dropped down again and there was another rising slope. Stop and rest. Descend a bit and start to climb. Through the trees and up above the treeline, the next rocky dome. Now we're getting there. And up atop the rocky dome, down it drops again and there's another summit.

As long as you're deeply oriented toward reaching THE summit, you're going to be unhappy. So here we are on the second semi-summit, and we start down again, and you begin to notice the wildflowers in the woods, and the beautiful stream running beside the trail. You start to climb again; the trees give way to flowering shrubs of exquisite colour and beautiful scent. Climbing up a little way above the shrubs, we sit, and you can see a beautiful view. Not behind you where it still climbs, but out there, a beautiful view. Just stop and enjoy the view. Have a glass of pure water from the spring. Relax. Listen to the birdsong.

Begin to climb again. Can you let go of the idea, this is going to be THE summit, and just relax and enjoy the climb? Now magnificent small flowering plants in the crevices of the rocks, beautiful birds flying overhead and exquisite cloud formations. The moss is very soft underfoot. Stop and lie down on it and relax. Maybe it can cease to matter if this is THE summit or simply one more summit. Can you enjoy the passage?

This is an extraordinary time for you on Earth. And as the weeks pass, it may seem like one summit after another. When will we ever get to the end of it? But many of you tell me that you're, that you feel almost guilty for enjoying the quiet. That you are stopping and enjoying the coming of spring around you, that you've been too busy in past years to enjoy. That you're spending more time connecting to your loved ones. THE summit will come. Please don't be so impatient for it, but trust the passageway and try to enjoy whatever beauty may be found amidst the suffering. I love you and I walk with you. Thank you.

President's Report

- A. Refer to *Ongoing Issues* in Google Drive on a regular basis
- B. Action item list from last meeting(s) or for future meetings ~~known to be completed~~
 1. Aaron asked the Board members to do positive manifestation visualization exercise on a daily basis.

2. Each Board member to write up a short bio of themselves and send to Tana to put on the Board members section of the website. (Missing Bob, Roann)
3. Desja to interview Barbara for Wikipedia article.
4. Roann to review Desja's writing of Barbara's info to be put on Wikipedia.
5. Tavis to collect information on cost of recording audio books as one of the projects.
6. Tana looking at cost versus impact of fundraising.
7. Board members to put their skillsets into the Google Drive document.
8. Board members to forward any names of suitable sangha members to Bob for new Treasurer position
9. List of volunteers on Drive, and need a volunteer leader to keep track and send requests to Tana to send out.
10. Another UM department can assist with website/video editing-best to wait for a separate quarter, one student at time
11. Room for one more board member, 9 max including Barbara (non-voting)
12. Bob to review email asking for fundraising volunteers and treasurer (to be sent after conversation with David)
13. Isabelle to contact new student, Julian, from Barbara's class, to determine skills and if/where he may be interested in volunteering his tech skills.

C. Publishing projects being addressed.

Desja creating Audacity training video (audio editing software).

Tavis to start developing recording process.

Tavis to resume research for professional narrators, has contact in NC.

Aaron/Q'uo: Barbara and Tavis emailed Jim McCarty of L/L Research re: copyright for Aaron/Q'uo Dialogues and audio recording. Publisher still has copyright for all forms of book. Jim recorded Aaron/Q'uo himself, but recording is not in final form. Needs a lot of work to get it ready for audio publishing even if we had the rights. If DSC were to get audio publishing rights, would need to re-record (easier than trying to edit other recording). Jim is okay if we want to pursue this; he isn't interested. Tavis to connect with publisher.

Foreign languages translations: Portuguese translations of Human and Path of Clear Light, and Spanish translation of Human done.

D. Healing Intervention Option (in person retreats/Remembering Wholeness)

Protocols to be distributed prior to Interventions for interested individuals so they're prepared ahead of time. Protocol already distributed to RW group in preparation for next session 5/17, depending upon COVID-19.

E. International Mask Distribution

Thanks to DSC's international presence and a generous donor of ours, we were able to arrange connections in the USA and several other countries to assist donors from China to ship masks at no cost to recipients. Several thousand masks donated to hospitals and other groups in great need of them.

Newsletter article to be written on this.

Teams

Current Financial Update

Budget balanced through June 2020.

Will produce full-year budget from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Given current funds, projected monthly donations and 3rd year Dharma Path class, appear to be on budget.

Fundraising

Team met in April. Reviewed budget and some thoughts for workshops.

Tavis to write semi-annual fundraising letter to go out 2 months after people can resume work. Difficult to garner donations when people are not working and stressed. Suggestion to make this our only fundraising letter for the year.

Incentives are very time-consuming for Tana to manage as they are currently set up. Suggestion to offer incentives for end of year fundraiser only to simplify.

Need another member, preferably a community member.

Notes to help with fundraising concepts in file on Google Drive.

Treasurer

David Teare contacted again, was on vacation.

Remembering Wholeness

Next session May 17, 2020 online only. Limit to 40 people maximum.

Bob to send Tana his RW email list.

Tana to create registration form with suggested donation and early deadline, and send out to Bob's RW, Dharma Path and Emerald Isle lists, specifying that we only have 40 spaces.

Tana to add note that there will not be a healing intervention in this session.

Need experienced volunteers holding space online to support Barbara. Bob to send list of people to Barbara to choose from, and Bob to email those people directly. Tavis will help, so 3 more are needed.

Tana to ask Debra if she can be Zoom manager for session.

Retreats

New May 2 Retreat: will be rescheduled, potentially May 23, to be decided in 2 weeks. Need Zoom host.

DP Intensive June 12-20, 2020:

Manager Pat Polanski.

Will be Zoom only. Agenda being adjusted.

Pat to work with Barbara, Aaron and John on adapting exercises to Zoom format.

Pat, Tana, Isabelle and Debra to meet for training around Zoom hosting.

Hosting a lot of work - good to have several people trained. Tana to email DP class asking for volunteers.

Oakwood 2020: October 3-11, 2020

Planning for some to go in person, others online. Teachers likely not traveling. Will need Zoom hosts.

Ruth and Bill doing pre-retreat organization.

Curriculum Team

Suggestion to record teachings for us to use in classes, after editing. Barbara could review prior to posting, if from other teachers.

Potential teachers could be sangha members who have written books.

Once pandemic is over, Tana to approach Dan Muir to record classes.

2-year Dharma Path: class to continue for 3rd year.

Awakened Heart Class: will not be continued next fall, but some joining Dharma Path

Evenings with Aaron: continuing in the fall

Technology

Google Drive: Isabelle to delete folder *Next Meeting Agenda*.

HD storage in EMP bags in fireproof safe

Instructions for access in file in *Ongoing Reminders* folder on Google Drive.

Photos and video completed of storage areas.

Still need: Address and directions to Barbara's and Tana's houses, and how to access the home if Barbara/Tana not available.

Web Redesign

Roann has contact at Washtenaw Community College for free consultations. Need concrete design questions/concepts to meet with them.

Isabelle to create a folder on Google Drive for *Web Redesign Recommendations*

Board members to review website this week and post in *Web Redesign Recommendations* folder on Google Drive

Prompt: Do you like the aesthetic design? If not, what do you want? Layout?
etc

Tana to email Isabelle and Roann to meet to discuss architecture

Isabelle to invite Julian to help with cutting and pasting task for architecture redesign, and if interested, Isabelle to invite him to meeting.

Colette willing to help with redesign.

Tana to ensure all videos have invitation for donation and link.

Archives

Isabelle met with Julian on Zoom. He is keen to contribute, has experience in editing and offered to do Q/A on the transcripts on the new site.

Isabelle to set up and build WordPress site, and work with Roger to upload current archive to new site. Julian to be given access to (private) site to do Q/A on all transcripts before site goes live.

Marketing

Blog: Isabelle and Debra met to discuss COVID-19 talks on the blog. Suggestion to put audio clips of blog text in each post. Isabelle has prepared text of first 4 blogs posts already, but will need help going forward. Aiming to have first posts up by end of this week, assuming help can be recruited.

Quarterly newsletter: next issue in June, will include article about donors in China and mask distribution.

Barbara

Barbara to determine which son will take over DSC property in the event of DSC dissolution.

Tavis and Colette to help hold space for Evenings with Aaron.

Action Items

1. Bob and Roann to send in their bios to Tana for the site.
2. Tavis to collect information on cost of recording audio books as one of the projects.
3. Tana looking at cost versus impact of fundraising.
4. Board members to put their skillsets into the Google Drive document.
5. Board members to forward any names of suitable sangha members to Bob for new Treasurer position
6. Tavis to start developing recording process.
7. Tavis to resume research for professional narrators, has contact in NC.
8. Tavis to connect with publisher of Aaron/Q'uo Dialogues (North Atlantic Books) .
9. Tavis to write semi-annual fundraising letter
10. Bob to send Tana his RW email list.
11. Tana to create registration for RW with suggested donation and early deadline, and send out to Bob's RW, Dharma Path and Emerald Isle lists, specifying that we only have 40 spaces, and add note that there will not be a healing intervention in this session.
12. Bob to send list of RW people to Barbara to choose from, and Bob to email those people directly.
13. Tana to ask Debra if she can be Zoom manager for RW session.
14. Pat to work with Barbara, Aaron and John on adapting DP intensive exercises to Zoom format.
15. Pat, Tana, Isabelle and Debra to meet for training around Zoom hosting.
16. Tana to email DP class asking for volunteers to learn Zoom hosting.
17. Isabelle to delete folder Next Meeting Agenda.
18. Isabelle to create a folder on Google Drive for Web Redesign Recommendations
19. Board members to review website this week and post in Web Redesign Recommendations folder on Google Drive
20. Tana to email Isabelle and Roann to meet to discuss website architecture.
21. Isabelle to invite Julian to help with cutting and pasting task for website redesign, and if interested, Isabelle to invite him to meeting.
22. Tana to ensure all videos have invitation for donation and link.

23. Isabelle to set up and build WordPress site for archives, and work with Roger to upload current archive to new site.
24. Barbara to determine which son will take over DSC property in the event of DSC dissolution.
25. Tavis and Colette to help hold space for Evenings with Aaron.

Next Meeting

May 31, 2020, 8 PM Eastern